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## SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD

OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

2900 QUEEN LANE • PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19129

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MR. GALT  
 MR. GALT  
 MR. GALT  
 MR. GALT  
 MR. GALT

*Helled*  
 July 10, 1985

The President  
 The White House  
 Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. President:

Following is a resolution that was passed unanimously by the delegates to the 1985 convention of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Lutheran Church in America:

"Whereas, through an ever-increasing number of individuals, groups and the news media, the name and person of Raoul Gustav Wallenberg is being made known and

"Whereas, this knowledge includes the following:

"In 1944, during World War Two, Raoul Gustav Wallenberg, young Swedish diplomat and scion of an illustrious and aristocratic Lutheran family, went to Nazi-occupied Budapest on a rescue mission under the auspices of the Swedish Government and funded by the United States War Refugee Board. By outmaneuvering the Nazis, he saved some 100,000 Jewish lives slated for torture and extermination and he saved the lives of countless anti-Nazi Christian partisans. In 1945, the advancing Russians arrested Wallenberg without cause, imprisoned him without trial and, depriving him of his fundamental human rights, have held him incommunicado since 1945, in violation of the rules of Swedish Neutrality, Diplomatic Immunity and International Law.

"Throughout the succeeding years, Wallenberg's attempts to alert those on the outside, to his existence and whereabouts, met with World indifference.

"The United States and Sweden officially maintain that Wallenberg is alive and still a prisoner somewhere in the Soviet Union. Sworn evidence and eyewitness testimony support this position. On October 5, 1981, the United States made him an Honorary Citizen, the third in its history. The Congressional Law 97-54 which thus honors Wallenberg, also directs the President of the United States to take all possible steps to ascertain from the Soviet Union his whereabouts and to secure his return to freedom.

"It is ironic that this man, a caring and concerned Christian who risked his

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life to perform a sincere act of human kindness, should languish in Soviet prisons since 1945, abandoned by a world which could have helped and that in rescuing those doomed by the apathy of others, he fell victim to a similar fate.

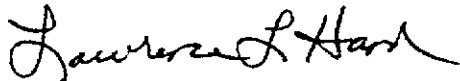
"An international outcry led by a ground swell of American voices must arise to demand the release of Raoul Gustav Wallenberg, Hero of the Twentieth Century. His message is a clarion call to a humanity: he chose to become involved when others were bystanders and did nothing.

"Therefore be it resolved, that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Lutheran Church in America urge its members to join other people to pray and work for a termination to this long, cruel and appalling injustice of Raoul Gustav Wallenberg,

"And be it further resolved, that the Bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod write President Reagan and the Senate and House of Representatives within the bounds of our judicatory expressing the concern voiced in this resolution and urging them to work for the release of Raoul Gustav Wallenberg."

I write to express my deep concern and the concern of over 400 delegates for the release of Mr. Wallenberg.

Sincerely yours,



Lawrence L. Hand  
Bishop  
/pwp

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